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# Editorial Page of The Capital Journal

CHARLES H. FISHER  
Editor and Manager

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## AN UNSOLVABLE PROBLEM

San Francisco has had a vice crusade on its hands for a month or more. A short time ago one result of this movement was the visit of a hundred or more women of the redlight districts to those in charge of the crusade. One of these, a woman conducting a house, told some plain truths to the committee. She asked an unanswerable question, in "Where will the girls go and what will they do?" The committee did not know, it does not know now, but it has established headquarters near the district for the relief of the woman. This is a temporary makeshift at the best, and the report shows but few of them made any requests for aid when, on the orders of District Attorney Fickert, the police swooped down on the district and gave the denizens two hours to get out. They got out of course; they had to; but they did not leave the earth. Consequently they are plying their trade somewhere, perhaps not so openly, but plying it just the same. What else can they do? It is simply foolish to say they can take up some other occupation. Who will employ them? What can they work at? Most of them have no trade or calling to which they can turn. They can perhaps get work as waitresses until their past is learned, and then they will be fired because women will insist on this being done. And when working as waitresses will they suddenly turn virtuous and cease their calling, or will they carry it on privately using their positions as a means of soliciting trade? There are undoubtedly some of them who would change their mode of life if they could, but the great majority feel they have burned their bridges behind them, and that there is no return. Virtue once lost is gone forever. You can't un-ring a bell. These girls know this. They know that even those who are apparently trying honestly to help them would not think of associating with them or allowing their children especially their children approaching maturity to do so. It is like the tramp question. Cities order them to move on, and so get rid of them only to receive a fresh lot ordered out of some other place. No matter how much they are kept on the move there is no diminution in their number. The women are one of the redlight district in San Francisco, and they are in some other district. Instead of the pimples on the city's skin being confined to one spot they are scattered all over its body.

We are not indorsing the district segregation of vice, but simply calling attention to the fact that so far, civilization has found no means of curing it. The remedy lies in prevention, and there will be no prevention until women who now hold aside their skirts as they pass their fallen sisters, treat the vice in the male just as they do in the female. Woman has the remedy in her hands, and she alone can apply it. When she ostracizes the boy who has trodden the primrose path just as she does the girl, then, and not until then will any effort to suppress this sort of vice be successful. The boy "sows a crop of wild oats," and the girl, no more guilty, not in fact nearly so much so, reaps a harvest of sorrow and shame and degradation. When the boy goes into the harvest field to help reap what he has sown, there will be a stamping out of the redlight districts and a large part of such vice. Until then the reformers will accomplish about as much as the wild ass mentioned in Jeremiah that snuffed up the wind; for as that same verse goes on to say: "In her occasion who can turn her away? All that seek her will not weary themselves for they shall find her."

The house, Wednesday, passed a bill which if it becomes a law will require the assessors of the state to put the forfeited Oregon & California land grant lands on the assessment rolls. Now if the wise legislators can pass a bill that will compel our good old Uncle Samuel to pay such taxes as are assessed against these lands they will have done something no one yet has been able to do.

There may be some consolation in the prospect that no matter what happens to the Marion-Polk bridge it will be built long before Salem gets a new Southern Pacific depot.

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There may be some real road legislation after all. The automobile owners will be mainly responsible for it if it materializes, due to the fact that they got busy a day or two ago and evolved a scheme to raise money that seems feasible. They purpose to issue \$6,000,000 of road bonds, and apply the annual license receipts on automobiles to the payment of interest and the creating of a sinking fund with which to retire the bonds when due. The taxpayers generally are not to be taxed at all for the purposes of raising road money, the state being asked only to lend its credit to the extent of \$6,000,000. Other sources of road revenues, including government money, are expected to bring the total amount available for road building up to \$10,000,000, and a long list of state highways has been selected for improvement. If the scheme works out the people of the state are to get a lot of good roads without paying for them; it is up to the auto owners to foot the bill, and, of course they don't count; anyway most of them appear to be in favor of it.

There was quite a debate over the emergency clause being attached to the state highway commission bill in the senate yesterday. Senator Pierce insisted there was no such emergency as the constitution required, and there wasn't. That provides that three things justify the declaring of an emergency, these being the public peace, safety or health. Pierce insisted the state could get along without this measure for 90 days without its peace, safety or health being endangered, but Olson stated the legislature had violated this constitutional requisite before and could do it again. He preferred the commission to the constitution, and along with the fifteen others who stood solid for the commission passed the bill with the emergency clause attached. The only emergency was in keeping the people from having a chance to vote on the question.

The bill giving officers the right to search vehicles other than railroad cars, when they have reason to believe such vehicles are carrying liquors, passed the senate yesterday. The bill is aimed at the autoists coming up from California, and to prevent an unusually profitable trade with Hornbrook materializing. So long as the bill is only enforced in that section it may work all right, but the trouble is that it makes it possible for any officer to search almost any auto party anywhere, if he so chooses. In that respect it is a very bad bill, so bad that it should not be permitted to pass.

That Cuban revolution might as well consider itself finished. The United States has served notice on the revolutionists that no government that obtained power by force would be recognized by it, and that means that the revolutionists will gain nothing if they win. Uncle Sam went down to the island, cleaned it up and showed the islanders how to keep in good health; and at the same time did away with the yellow fever, which originating in Cuba has at times swept over the Gulf states. There will be no fooling with Cuba, even though a small spanking becomes necessary.

The Portland bunch had that highway code bill all arranged. While it was being debated yesterday in the senate, Senator Olson read a letter from Mr. Yeon saying he could not accept a position as one of the commissioners. He said he had plenty of road work on hand in Multnomah county. A person refusing a job before the law creating it is passed, is, in the language of the immortal, "going some."

Congress on Wednesday canvassed the sealed vote of the electoral college and formally declared Wilson and Marshall elected president and vice-president respectively of the United States. The official count as announced by congress was for Wilson and Marshall 277 electoral votes, and for Hughes and Fairbanks 254. This was a nice but not unexpected valentine for the democratic candidates.

The Oregon boys getting home from the border was a very welcome valentine. It was a real old fashioned valentine too, for there was lots of love kisses and all that, accompanying it.



## THE WAY OUT

The cost of grub's beyond all pardon; it makes me rend my duds; and so this year I'll have a garden, and raise my greens and spuds. Like others' I have formed the habit of buying all my eats, from cauliflower to potted rabbit, from succotash to beets. My spreading lawn has been devoted to grass, and still more grass, but after this it will be coated with blooming garden sass. I cannot eat the lovely roses that scent the country-side; they're gratifying to our noses, but are no good when fried. If I should boil a mess of lilies, in place of cabbage-head, the dish would give my guests the willies, and set them seeing red. I buy my cabbage from the grocer, my tulip bulbs I raise; and that is why the wolf draws closer, and howls, these dismal days. This year I'll raise my prunes and onions, on these, my fertile lands, and ply the hoe till I have bunions upon my snow-white hands.

## ROAD BOND BILL WITH AUTO-OWNERS FOOTING ENTIRE COST

Receipts From License Fees  
to Pay Bond Interest and  
Provide Sinking Fund

Thirty-eight members of the house, united in their determination to enact some constructive road legislation before the close of this session, got behind the proposed \$6,000,000 road bond bill yesterday and dropped it into the hopper, stamped with their pledge of support.

The bill was rushed to the printer, and was on the members' desk this morning. It is possible that it will be up for final passage some time today.

The members who joined in introducing the bill are:

Anderson, Tahley, Barber, Bean, Beland, Brand, Brownell, Burdick, Callan, Clark, Corbett, Elgin, Elmore, Forbes, Fuller, Gordon, Gore, Griggs, Hodges, Kubli, Laughaard, Lewis, Langer, Macdonald, Martin, Matheson, Mueller, Ritzer, Rowe, Schumacher, Sheldon, Small, Staffin, Stott, Sweeney, Mrs. Thompson, Willett and Speaker Stanfield.

Representative Schimpff of Clatsop county, who is chairman of the house committee on roads and highways, had the distinction, by virtue of his position, of formally passing the measure up to the desk.

This bill is the same, with the exception of a few minor amendments, as the one introduced in the senate yesterday by Senator Olson. It authorizes the state highway commission to issue bonds to the extent of \$6,000,000 for road development in the next five years.

The interest and principal are to be paid by increased automobile license money. This money, together with the funds that may accrue from the bonds sold under provisions of the Bean-Barnett bill, already passed by both houses, will place a maximum of \$7,800,000 of state funds at the disposal of the highway commission in the next five years. An additional \$1,800,000 it is to be expended in Oregon through the federal appropriation.

Besides this approximately \$225,000 will be available every year from the regular quarter mill tax levy.

This means that the state will have at its disposal during the next five years more than \$10,000,000 for permanent road development besides the money that may be spent by the individual counties.

**Exclusion of Multnomah Feature**  
The provision in the bonding bill excluding Multnomah county from its benefits is an element that appealed to the upstate members.

The system of roads that are to be built under this plan are enumerated in the bill. Every county in the state excepting Curry county will be served.

Following is a list of roads proposed to be hard surfaced:

First—The Columbia River Highway from the Multnomah county line to Astoria, Seaside and south to the Tillamook county line.

Second—The Pacific Highway from the Multnomah county line through Oswego, Oregon, City and Canby through Clackamas county, thence through Marion and Linn counties to junction with Pacific Highway at Harrisburg.

Third—The Pacific Highway from the Multnomah county line through Oswego, Oregon, City and Canby through Clackamas county, thence through Marion and Linn counties to junction with Pacific Highway at Harrisburg.

**Columbia Highway Listed**  
Fourth, the Columbia River Highway from the Multnomah county line, through Hood River and Wasco counties, Sherman and Gilliam counties by

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way of Arlington and up the Columbia river to a point near the confluence of the Umatilla and Columbia rivers; up the Umatilla river through Hermiston, Stunfiell, Echo and Pendleton, thence by such route as shall be determined by the state highway commission to La Grande, Baker and the Idaho line.

Fifth, the Pacific Highway through Jackson county, including both paving and base.

Sixth, a road, commencing on the Columbia River highway, near Arlington, in Gilliam county, up Willow creek in Morrow county, through Ione, Lexington and Hopper in Morrow county, through Pilot Rock, Pendleton, Adams, Athena, Weston, Milton and Preewar to the Oregon-Washington line.

Seventh, a route from the south end of Clatsop county at the end of its highway, south via Wheeler to Garibaldi Beach.

**Post Roads Specified**

The following highways are to be known as post roads:

First, from Eugene to the Jackson county line over the route of the Pacific Highway as adopted by the state highway commission.

Second, the Columbia River Highway as already described, which the commissioners of the several counties do not propose to treat with hard surface.

Third, the road from Roseburg, via Mrtle Point and Coquille to Marshfield.

Fourth, the road from the Pacific Highway from a point at or near McMinnville via Willamina to Tillamook.

Fifth, the road from The Dalles to Redmond, Bend and to Klamath Falls.

Sixth, from Bend to Lakeview.

Seventh, the road from an intersection with the Columbia River Highway, either in Sherman or Gilliam county, via Condon, Fossil and Spray, up the John Day Valley to such point as the highway commission shall elect, thence to Vale and to the Idaho line.

Eighth, a road from some point on the Pacific Highway to be selected by the commission to the city of Tillamook.

A road from La Grande, through Union and Walla Walla counties to Joseph.

**Crater Lake Work Provided For**  
The following are to be built as forest roads in cooperation with the federal government:

First, from a point in Jackson county, to be selected by the highway commission and the federal officials, via Crater Lake to a point in Klamath county to be selected by the highway commission.

Second, a road from a point in Lane county to be selected by the commission via Siuslaw river to a point in Coos county to be selected by the commission.

**MY HUSBAND AND I**  
Jane Phelps

## CLIFFORD PROVES CONSIDERATE

### CHAPTER CLXIX.

In the days that followed Clifford never once referred to the conversation we had had before I left home; never once showed by his manner that there was anything wrong, altho I nervously waited for him to do so. It was perhaps easier for me that he had insisted upon removing his trunk to the little village hotel when he found how full the house was of Zona's guests.

Morton Levering was evidently puzzled. Clifford had appeared glad to renew their acquaintance, and when we were all together there was absolutely nothing in his manner to show that we were anything but the most prosaic married pair. Taking my cue from him, I too tried to appear natural, and succeeded fairly well when others were around.

Elsie watched us closely, too closely for my comfort, but not even to her did I say another word. Altho when she was around I tried to talk more to Clifford, and occasionally would defer some small matter to him for her benefit.

**Joyous Days.**  
The days were so full that there was little time for moping or thinking of one's self. Then the evenings were given over to dancing. Mother insisted that all gaiety be over by 12 o'clock, so that both Zona and her young guests could get the necessary rest.

Zona was so happy, so in love with

Clifford, and he with her that it affected us all. I can see her yet as she walked thro' the grounds with her lover in the August twilight. She wore a white dress and swung a big leghorn hat by its rose colored ribbons in her hand. Her wavy blonde hair was blowing about her piquant little face on which rested a look of expectancy that gave her an added charm.

Her happiness at times like this affected me strangely. I felt cheated. I never had had a real honeymoon—never a real courtship. The whirlwind way in which Clifford had carried me off with him, now seemed barbaric when compared with the peaceful happy way in which Zona was being won and married.

"Hold fast to your happiness Zona!" I said to her one day. "It is the most precious thing in the world."

An Unwelcome Guest.

I was sitting by my window resting for a few moments when I saw a familiar form swinging up the walk. It couldn't be—I thought—it WAS Leonard Brooke. My heart beat for joy; then I grew cold with dread. What should I do? How hide the conditions from mother, now that he had disobeyed me, and followed me home? I waited in an agony of anticipation until one of the maids brought word that a gentleman wanted to see me.

As I entered the drawing room, mother turned to me:

"Mr. Brooke is here dear. You remember he visited us last year when you did. I have asked him to remain for the wedding."

"And I have accepted," he announced as he rose to greet me. There was a note of bravado in his voice, a look in his face that told me that Muriel had not exaggerated when she wrote that he was desperate.

"That will be very nice," I stammered, and just then mother was called from the room and we were left alone.

"Oh, why did you come?" I asked, as he again bent over and passionately kissed my hand which he had not relinquished.

"Because I couldn't stay away," he replied simply.

"But—oh, you must go back—you must! I wrote you that it would kill mother to know that I ever had even contemplated a divorce—and Leonard, I'm not sure even yet."

"You love me, Mildred. I can wait. But I couldn't wait longer to see you. I have been starving for you dear."

"You know that Clifford is here!" I asked, as I felt a little thrill of joy at his words. Here was the love I had longed for, tried in vain to arouse in Clifford. Why shouldn't I take it?

"That will make no difference. I shall see you if only when others are around."

(Tomorrow—The World's Awry.)